GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:396
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2004
WELFARE OF SERVICEMEN AND EX-SERVICEMEN
Bansal Shri Pawan Kumar

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Standing Committee of Defence had last year given elaborate recommendations on the welfare of Servicemen and Ex-Servicemen;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether the Government has considered the same; and

(d) if so, action, if any, being taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement indicating the salient features of the recommendations is attached.

(c) & (d): The recommendations made by the Committee were considered and Action Taken Notes on each of the recommendations have been sent to the Lok Sabha Secretariat.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 396 FOR 2.12.2004

Salient features of the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Defence (2003) are given below:

(i) Restructuring of officers cadre with a view to have youthful profile and adequate promotional avenues for the Armed Forces personnel.

(ii) Exploration of opportunities for transfer/deputation/lateral induction of defence personnel to other Departments.

(iii) Review of insurance benefits to servicemen.

(iv) Increase in the reservation for the wards of servicemen in professional institutions.

(v) Increasing the training facilities for ex-servicemen to improve their employability and removal of constraints in providing re-employment to ex-servicemen in Government jobs and exploring opportunities for re-employment of ex-servicemen in private sector also.

(vi) Setting up of a National Commission on Ex-servicemen on the lines of National Commission for SC/ST/Minorities, establishment of an Ex-servicemen Financial Corporation as well as an Ex-servicemen Industrial Corporation.

(vii) Encouraging ex-servicemen to form cooperative societies.

(viii) Grant of `one rank one pension` to the armed forces personnel.

(ix) Condition of 33 years of service for drawing full pension to the armed forces personnel be removed.

(x) Revision of disability pension especially in the case of defence personnel having 100% disability so that they get pension-cum-disability pension equal to last pay drawn.

(xi) Enhancement of medical facilities for servicemen and ex-servicemen.

(xii) Widows of ex-servicemen be covered under ECHS and exempted from the payment of contribution.